

**OTP HIKE**

Santa Rosa Plateau  
March 31, 2010  
Leader: Jim Gardner

Directions: From Corona, drive south on I-15 past Lake Elsinore, and exit on Clinton Keith Road. Go right (west) on Clinton-Keith Road, and drive about 2 miles to the Visitor Center where you need to pull into the parking lot and pay the \$2.00 per person fee to the Nature Conservancy Custodians. **BATHROOMS IN THE VISITOR CENTER.**

After paying your fees and using the facilities, continue on Clinton-Keith road past Hidden Valley Parking to the **Vernal Spring Trail Entrance**. Parking is along the road and there is a portapotty here.

For those interested in breakfast/coffee, there is a Denny's in Lake Elsinore about 4 miles before the Clinton-Keith exit. It's on the Diamond Drive exit, and on the left of the freeway.

The hike: There is a wide range of possible hikes in various combinations, there being around 40 miles of trails in the preserve. The first stop for all the hikes, of course, is the vernal pools. As we leave for England, I anticipate that I will have good trail maps, as Rob at the preserve office has agreed to mail me some, which I will then copy for the day of the hike.

You must stay in a group of 2 or more, as there are cougars in the area. Please bring a hiking stick to use as a weapon.

I thank Alice Weiss, whose write-up of this hike I have plagiarized and modified.